

Notes on Toronto Baptist College

Before submitting recommendations for your consideration and action regarding the opening of the Arts Department, attention must be called to some facts in reference to the present and prospective condition of Toronto Baptist College.

There are thirty-nine students attending theological lectures the present session. Of these, five are in the Course for University graduates, thirteen in the four-year Course with Hebrew and Greek, fourteen in the three-year English Course, and seven are not in any Course.

Regarding these thirty-nine students the following should be noted:

(a) The five University graduates have been admitted on their University diploma.

(b) Of the thirteen in the Course with Hebrew and Greek two have matriculated in Arts, six have done work equivalent to what is required for matriculation in Arts, the other five have not done work equivalent to this.

(c) Of the fourteen in the English Course ten have done work equivalent to the English required for matriculation in Arts, four have not done such work.

(d) Of the seven irregular students, their preparation is not sufficient to admit them to any of the Courses of the College.

(e) From the facts just stated it will be seen that at

the present time there are only twenty-three students in attendance upon lectures who have, according to the standard laid down on pages 29 and 30 of the Calendar for 1888-9, attained an equivalent to the qualifications necessary to enter regularly the Courses of the College. In this connection it must, however, be noted that the standard for admission to the Courses of the College the present session is much higher than was required in any former session.

(f) In view of the wide difference in literary preparation and mental training of the students attending lectures, as appears from the above facts, it is impossible to adapt instruction properly to the wants of the classes. A considerable proportion, therefore, of the students fail to receive the benefit they should from the lectures they attend. This state of things is destructive to the best interests of the College. It of necessity makes it impossible to do first-class work. Under such circumstances, if justice is done to those who enter the classes without proper preparation, the stronger and well prepared class of young men must suffer loss.

(g) It need scarcely be added that if this condition of things be continued, the College must of necessity fail to give to the ministry of our denomination the advantages which ought to be given to them. After a careful study of this whole subject, it is evident to me that Toronto Baptist College must be placed substantially upon the basis proposed in the following recommendations if it is to serve the purpose for which it was founded:

